

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
Sand Point
Alaska

HABS No. AK-75

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

HABS No. AK-75

Location: Sand Point, Popof Island, Shumagin Islands, Alaska.

Significance: Although quite new, the church closely resembles the previous church, built in 1936. A gable roof covers both sanctuary and nave, entered through the base of a belltower.

Description: The main block, incorporating both nave and sanctuary, measures 16'-5" x 30'-1", with a 8'-5" x 9'-1" belltower. The wood frame is covered with novelty siding, painted white. The gable roof is covered with wood shingles. The two-story belltower is topped with a pyramidal roof, on which sits an octagonal belfry with round-arched openings.

The iconostas is new, with spiral-topped columns separating the bays. The icon of the Last Supper over the royal doors and the four large icons are from the previous church. There is a wooden wainscot and drywall on the walls. All of the woodwork is light oak.

The church sits in a picket-fenced churchyard near the harbor.

History: The church was built in 1986, but closely resembles the previous church, built in 1936. The church was rarely used, and fell into disrepair. The icons were removed in the 1950s.

In the rebuilding, the main block was lengthened about 6'. The foundation, floor, and part of the tower are original. Fr. Gerasim designed the interior himself.

Sources: Shirley Brown, whose husband Jim worked on the reconstruction, interviewed by author, September 12, 1990.

Historian: Alison K. Hoagland, HABS Historian, 1990.

ADDENDUM TO
ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Sand Point
Aleutian Islands
Alaska

HABS No. AK-75

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